

Part B

(a) drawing a sample of specified volume [is drawn] from a cleaning bath,

[(b) if desired, the sample is freed of solids,

(c) a selection is made as to whether free alkalinity and/or total alkalinity is to be determined,

(d) the sample is titrated by addition of an acid, or an acid is submitted and the latter is titrated with the sample.]

(b) determining alkalinity of the sample using the acid-base reaction with an acid, the determining step being performed by a measuring device

(c) [(e)] outputting the result of step (b) [the titration is output and/or stored on a data carrier and/or utilized as the basis for further evaluations].

Please add new claims 15-35 as follows:

15. The process of claim 1 further comprising the step of removing solids from the sample prior to the step of determining alkalinity.

16. The process of claim 1 wherein free alkalinity is determined in the step of determining alkalinity.

17. The process of claim 1 wherein total alkalinity is determined in the step of determining alkalinity.

18. The process of claim 1 wherein the step of determining alkalinity comprises titrating the sample by addition of an acid.

19. The process of claim 1 wherein the step of determining alkalinity comprises titrating an acid by addition of the sample.

20. The process of claim 1 wherein the step of outputting comprises displaying the result of step (b).

21. The process of claim 1 wherein the step of outputting comprises storing the result of step (b) on a data carrier.

22. The process of claim 1 wherein steps (a) through (c) are automatically repeated after a specified time interval.

23. The process of claim 22 further comprising the step of adjusting the duration of the specified time interval based on a comparison of the results of step (b) on consecutive drawn samples.

24. The process of claim 1 further comprising the step of inputting an external request to initiate steps (a) through (c).

25. The process of claim 1 further comprising determining the alkalinity of one or more standard solutions.

26. The process of claim 25 wherein steps (a) through (c) are automatically repeated after a specified time interval and the step of determining the alkalinity of one or more standard solutions is initiated if the results of step (b) on two consecutive drawn samples differs by a preselected value.

27. The process of claim 25 further comprising the step of outputting the result from the step of determining the alkalinity of the one or more standard solutions.

28. The process of claim 25 wherein steps (a) through (c) are automatically repeated after a specified time interval and further comprising one or

more steps selected from the group consisting of

analyzing the results of a plurality of alkalinity determinations,
automatically terminating the process,
activating a detectable signal, and
adjusting operation of the measuring device.

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29. The process of claim 1 wherein the step of determining alkalinity is conducted using a pH-sensitive electrode.

30. The process of claim 1 wherein the step of determining alkalinity comprises measuring pH-dependent interaction with electromagnetic radiation.

31. The process of claim 1 wherein the step of determining alkalinity comprises monitoring changes in one or more properties selected from the group consisting of color, refractive index and electrical conductivity.

32. The process of claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically determining the level of one or more reagents.

33. The process of claim 32 further comprising the step of activating a detectable signal in response to a determination of a preselected level of one or more reagents.

34. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of transmitting the result of step (b) to a remote location.

35. The process of claim 1 further comprising the step of automatically adding one or more pH-adjusting components into the cleaning bath in response to the result of step (b) being a preselected value.